

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 6 as follows:

--Examples of effect pigments described here comprise pigments like IRIODIN[®], CANDURIN[®], TIMIRON[®], COLORSTREAM[®] and XIRALLIC[®], Iriodin[®], Candurin[®], Timiron[®], Colorstream[®] and Xirallie[®] pigments from Merck KGaA, MEARLIN[®] and DYNACOLOR[®], Mearlin[®] and DynaColor[®] pigments from Engelhard Corp., VARIOCHROM[®] and PALIOCHROM[®], Variochrom[®] and Paliochrom[®] pigments from BASF or SPECTRAFLAIR[®], Speetraflair[®] pigments from Flex Products.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 7 as follows:

--In one embodiment of the present invention the spherical particles are coated with one or more layers of transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively or nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides and/or mixtures of these materials. Layers of transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively or nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates as an outer layer, are preferred. Particles described above can be obtained commercially, e.g. as RONASPHERES[®] or EUSOLEX[®]UV-PearlsTM, Ronaspheres[®] or Eusolex[®]UV-PearlsTM from Merck KGaA, Darmstadt. These pigments are advantageous in or pharmaceutical formulations related to their spherical shape. ~~Formulations-formulations~~ comprising these pigments show, depending on the material used, good wrinkle hiding effects and a good skin feeling. The pigments can have the function of a ~~an~~ filler or in the case of the capsules as well as of an active ingredient with combined features such as antimicrobial activity and for example UV-filtering activity. Furthermore, formulations comprising pigments based on these substrates also reduce the gloss of the skin and give to the skin surface a smoother appearance. In addition, the skin feeling is improved, because of the glide and roll effect of the spheres.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 12 as follows:

--One major advantage of formulations according to the present invention is, that they can be used for the inhibition of the growth and progeny of microorganisms. Microorganisms in the latter sense are for example bacteria (gram positive and gram-negative bacteria), yeasts, fungi and viruses. Examples of microorganisms described herein are microorganisms selected from

for example Staphylococci, Micrococci, Escherichia, Pseudomonas, Bacilli, Salmonella, Shigella, Porphyromonas, Prevotella, Wolinella, Campylobacter, Propionibacterium, Streptococci, Corynebacterium, Treponema, Fusobacterium, Bifidobacterium, Lactobacillus, Actinomyces, Candida, Malazessia, Aspergillus ~~Staphylococci, Micrococci, Escherichia, Pseudomonas, Bacilli, Salmonella, Shigella, Porphyromonas, Prevotella, Wolinella, Campylobacter, Propionibacterium, Streptococci, Corynebacterium, Treponema, Fusobacterium, Bifidobacterium, Lactobacillus, Actinomyces, Candida, Malazessia, Aspergillus~~, herpes simplex 1 and 2.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 8 as follows:

--Furthermore, in formulations according to the present invention the antimicrobial pigments can be advantageously combined with antibiotics. Antibiotics in this sense mean all known antibiotics, for example selected from the group of beta-lactam, vancomycin, macrolides, tetracyclines, quinolones, fluoroquinolones, nitrated compounds (as for instance nitroxoline, tilboquinol or nitrofurantoin), aminoglycosides, phenicols, lincosamids, synergistins, fosfomycin, fusidic acid, oxazolidinones, rifamycins, polymyxynes, gramicidins, tyrocydine, glycopeptides, sulfonamides or trimethoprims. Formulations comprising Beta-lactam, Vancomycin, Macrolides, Tetracyclines, Quinolones, Fluoroquinolones, Nitrated compounds (as for instance Nitroxoline, Tilboquinol or Nitrofurantoin), Aminoglycosides, Phenicols, Lincosamids, Synergistins, Fosfomycin, Fusidic acid, oxazolidinones, Rifamycins, Polymyxynes, Gramicidins, Tyrocydine, Glycopeptides, Sulfonamides or Trimethoprims. ~~formulation comprising~~ combinations of antimicrobial pigments and antibiotics are advantageous with respect to the resistance of several microorganisms against certain antibiotics. A combination of antibiotics with antimicrobial pigments according to the present invention helps to overcome the resistance by simply decreasing the number of microorganisms which have not been affected by the antibiotics.--